

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print system comprising:
  - an input unit for inputting a contact destination to be contacted at end of printing;
  - 5 a printer for printing an image on a visible recording medium;
  - a first determination unit for determining whether printing by said printer has ended; and
  - a transmitting unit, which is responsive to a 10 determination by said determination unit that printing has ended, for transmitting data indicating that printing has ended to a data processing unit, which is specified by the contact destination that has been input by said input unit, via a communication channel.
- 15 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said data processing unit is capable of short-distance communication with said print system;
  1. said input unit receives identification data, which identifies said data processing unit, as the contact 20 destination transmitted from said processing unit by short-distance communication; and
  - the transmitting unit transmits the data indicating that printing has ended to said data processing unit, which is identified by the identification data, by 25 short-distance communication.
3. The system according to claim 2, further comprising an image data receiving unit for receiving image data transmitted from said data processing unit by short-

PROVISIONAL PATENT

distance communication;

wherein said printer records an image represented by the image data, which has been received by said image-data receiving unit, on a visible recording medium.

4. The system according to claim 3, further comprising:

a request data receiving unit for receiving data indicating a print extraction request transmitted from said data processing unit by short-distance

communication;

a second determination unit for determining, in accordance with receipt of the print extraction request data by said request data receiving unit, whether the data processing unit that transmitted the print extraction request data is that of a user authorized to acquire a print; and

a printer control unit for ejecting a visible recording medium, on which printing has been performed by said printer, in response to a determination by said second determination unit that the user is authorized.

5. A data processing unit that is capable of short-distance communication with a print system, comprising:

a transmitting unit for transmitting identification data, which is for identifying the data processing unit, by short-distance communication to said print system as a contact destination to be contacted at end of printing;

a receiving unit for receiving data transmitted by

short-distance communication from said print system  
indicating that printing has ended; and

5 a notification unit for giving notification of end  
of printing in response to receipt of printing-end data  
by said receiving unit.

6. A print system comprising:

a printer for printing an image and an  
identification code, which is for identifying the owner  
of the image, on a visible recording medium;

10 a holding mechanism for holding, within the print  
system, visible recording media on which printing has  
been performed by said printer;

15 an identification-code notification unit for giving  
notification of the identification code printed on the  
visible recording medium by said printer;

an identification-code input unit for inputting the  
identification code; and

20 an ejection unit for ejecting, from said holding  
mechanism to the outside of said print system, the  
visible recording medium on which the input  
identification code has been recorded from among the  
visible recording media being held by said holding  
mechanism.

25 7. A method of controlling operation of a print system  
comprising the steps of:

inputting a contact destination to be contacted at  
end of printing;

printing an image on a visible recording medium;

determining whether the printing has ended; and  
in response to a determination that printing has  
ended, transmitting data indicating that printing has  
ended to a data processing unit, which is specified by  
5 the contact destination that has been input, via a  
communication channel.

8. A method of controlling operation of a data  
processing unit that is capable of short-distance  
communication with a print system, comprising the steps  
10 of:  
transmitting identification data, which is for  
identifying the data processing unit, by short-distance  
communication to the print system as a contact  
destination to be contacted at end of printing;

15 receiving data transmitted by short-distance  
communication from the print system indicating that  
printing has ended; and  
giving notification of end of printing in response  
to receipt of printing-end data.

20 9. A method of controlling operation of a print system  
comprising the steps of:  
printing an image and an identification code, which  
is for identifying the owner of the image, on a visible  
recording medium;

25 holding, within the print system, visible recording  
media on which printing has been performed;  
giving notification of the identification code  
printed on the visible recording medium;

09522855-0202/02

inputting the identification code; and  
ejecting, to the exterior of the print system, the  
visible recording medium on which the input  
identification code has been recorded from among the  
5 visible recording media being held.

00000000000000000000000000000000